GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:109
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2009
OPERATION OF FAKE FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES
Kaswan Shri Ram Singh

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that several fake foreign universities are cheating the students in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by the Government including issuing of notices cautioning the public against such fake universities ?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a)to(c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO(c) OF THELOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 109 FOR 24.2.2009 ASKED BY SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN, HONOURABLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT,REGARDING OPERATION OF FAKE FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES.

(a)to(c): In the absence of any mechanism to regulate the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions,no authentic information is available with the Government about the number of foreign universities operating in the country.However,the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has framed regulations,for entry and operation of foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education in India.A legislative proposal for regulating the entry and operation of foreign educational institutions in India is under the consideration of the Government.

A public appeal was issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development on 17th June,2008 in the print media cautioning parents/guardians and students that while seeking admission in higher educational institutions,they should satisfy themselves that such institutions are recognized under the relevant laws and are of quality and repute.Even in the case of recognized institutions and universities,parents and students have been advised to satisfy that the courses for which admissions are being offered/advertised are duly recognized and further that the campuses to which admissions are being offered are also recognized campuses of such institutions and universities.In case of any doubt,they have been advised to obtain information directly from the statutory bodies such as the University Grants Commission(UGC) or All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).These statutory authorities have also been directed to launch effective campaign against institutions which are unrecognized and unauthorized and to take appropriate penal action under law.An appeal has also been made to the media to refuse publishing of misleading advertisements even if it meant loss of advertising revenue to them.

The AICTE has put a list of unauthorized institutions as also a public notice on its website.According to the AICTE public notices have been issued by them cautioning the students, parents and the general public regarding such unapproved foreign universities/institutions imparting technical education without AICTE approval.Show cause notices are issued to such unapproved institutions either to seek AICTE approval or to close down unapproved programmes, and the list of unapproved institutions are referred to the concerned State Government/Union Territory for taking appropriate legal action.